



Friday
August 26,
2011

Weekly Views

Congratulations to Team Correction for their amazing third place finish in the 7th Annual Paddle Battle sponsored by the State Personnel Department! The team swept their original heat, and with no time to rest before the championship heat, they pulled out in front. A little cheating from one of the competition kept them from taking first place, but they only missed it by seconds. We couldn't be prouder of the awesome TEAM CORRECTION!!! Congratulations to Ashley Lindenmier, James Baumgardner, Teresa Turner and Steve Hall!

Miami Correctional Facility's K-9 Unit went out into the community to put on a show for participants of the American Cancer Society's Bark For Life event in Peru, IN. The team conducted several demonstrations of the dogs' working abilities and answered questions from the audience. About 55 people attended the event.

The Reception-Diagnostic Center hosted Jail Commanders and jailers from the Steuben County Sheriff's Department and Dearborn County Sheriff's Department. The group toured the facility and learned more about RDC and the IDOC intake process.

Wabash Valley Correctional Facility Officer Maggie Miller helped bring the WVCF IDOC Blood Drive Challenge to a close with her donation to the Indiana Blood Center. 94 staffers gave the "gift of life" helping to address the current critical need for blood. Superintendent Dick Brown thanked all of the Wabash "silent heroes" for their demonstration of community spirit.

Southern District Federal Court Judge Tanya Walton Pratt and members of her staff toured the Pendleton Correctional Facility's segregation units with Superintendent Keith Butts and Assistant Superintendent of Operations Duane Alsip. Judge Pratt was impressed with how clean the facility was. She also commented on the positive interaction she observed between staff and offenders. Judge Pratt was accompanied on the tour by Tom Quigley who serves as Special Counsel to Commissioner Lemmon, Deputy Attorney General David Arthur, and representatives of the American Civil Liberties Union of Indiana.

The second class of six students graduated from the Parole Pre-service Academy after four weeks of training. The South Bend and Indianapolis District Offices each had two representatives, and the Bloomington and Gary offices had one representative each. Parole Services is proud to include Jasmin Durakovic and Michael Rodriguez (PD8), Justin Fuller and Oscar Solis (PD3), Tony Fetter (PD5) and Latrina Brown (PD6) to the ranks and recognizes the efforts of the trainees, Parole Division Training Officers and the staff of SDEO for a successful orientation.

Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility Urban Unity Gavel Club Toastmasters presented the Good News Mission Men's Shelter, which provides food, shelter, and human services to Indianapolis's displaced men, with a \$375 check and several pounds of produce from the IREF garden. Toastmasters residents held a Subway Sandwich fundraiser, in which residents participated by purchasing sandwiches with funds from their inmate accounts.

Branchville Correctional Facility Superintendent Gil Peters announced the promotions of Correctional Officer Greg Krygielka, accountant Vicky Hinton, Correctional Officer Sarah Hess, and former Ivy Tech contract employee Karen Godare to Correctional Caseworkers. Congratulations all!

Re-Entry staff at the Westville Correctional Facility have been aiding offenders in reclaiming lost or forgotten money. Staff have been checking offender names and information against the Attorney General's Unclaimed Property Division web page to determine if the offender has any unclaimed money. Through their efforts, the facility has reclaimed over \$1600 from the states unclaimed money division. The money is sent directly to the offender's Trust Fund account.

A Forklift Operator Class was held at the Indiana State Prison (ISP), Minimum Security. Rick Cornelison, a Pen Products instructor presented the class to offenders who are assigned to the warehouse.

The Indiana State Public Defender's Office and the Physical Plant staff from the Indiana State Prison installed video conference equipment at ISP. This equipment will be used to assist with the number of attorney visits at the facility. The benefit to the taxpayers is that the attorneys will be able to meet with their clients from Indianapolis and not have to be on the road traveling numerous hours.

Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility held a PLUS graduation for ten students who successfully completed the program. This is the tenth graduating class from the PLUS unit. This class completed over 300 hours of community service, raised \$150 over the 16-week course and donated \$50 to the Domestic Violence Awareness Fund. The unit also has three mentors that donated over 30 hours of their time to the success of the unit and class.

The Putnamville Correctional Facility held a Prevention Relationship Enhancement Program (PREP) for 12 offenders and their spouses. PREP is a pre-marital/marital educational program designed to teach couples communication and conflict management skills. The event is organized by Volunteer Coordinator Rick Hayes.